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The Urban District of Esher



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25 JUN 1963
HYGIENE *
MEDICAL MEDICINE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Public Health Inspector



For the Year Ended 31st December

1958
17

The Urban District of Esher

ANNUAL REPORT
of the Health and
Sanitary Conditions
for the Year 1958

JAMES BRYAN MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

JOHN C. ARMSTRONG, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,

Senior Public Health Inspector.



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. T. O'BRIEN, M.B.E., J.P.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR MISS W. E. BISIKER

COUNCILLOR MRS. G. M. BETTS, J.P. COUNCILLOR J. H. W. MITCHELL

„	R. G. BROWN	„	SIR GUY NOTT-BOWER,
„	V. J. BULLETT		K.B.E., C.B.
„	C. H. C. COMBE	„	D. d'E. PANRUCKER
„	C. W. G. MARTIN, F.R.I.C.	„	MRS. W. H. RAFFELS

Ex-Officio Members:

COUNCILLOR A. W. P. YOUNG, J.P., (*Chairman of the Council*).

COUNCILLOR E. ROYSTON PIKE, (*Vice-Chairman of the Council*).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Personnel

Medical Officer of Health :

*J. B. MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector :

*JOHN C. ARMSTRONG, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector :

*FRANK L. BARKER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Certificate of the R.S.I and S.I.E. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and in Sanitary Science.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

*CHRISTOPHER F. PACKHAM, M.A.P.H.I.,

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Nurse :

MISS V. DAWSON, S.R.N.

Clerks :

MISS D. ARNELL

MRS. M. J. STURGEON,
(appointed 17/11/58).

MRS. A. COLEMAN,
(resigned 8/12/58).

MISS J. THEOBALD,
(appointed 29/12/58).

MISS J. JACKSON,
(resigned 19/10/58).

Pests Officer :

R. J. CLARKE

Mortuary Keeper and Disinfecter :

J. H. DOLLEY

Clerk and Solicitor of the Council :

FREDERICK EDWARDS

Public Analyst :

D. D. MOIR, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

*Contribution of salary made from Exchequer

Urban District of Esher

COUNCIL OFFICES,
ESHER.

Telephone : ESHER 2241

June, 1959.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1958 which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 22/58.

The health of the district remains good and the vital statistics which are included in the text of the report compare extremely well with those of the country as a whole.

This is my last Annual Report after serving the district for eleven years. These have been very eventful years; they have seen the introduction of the National Health Service and many other administrative changes. Effective treatment for tuberculosis has been introduced and immunisation against this disease, whooping cough and poliomyelitis instituted on an increasing scale.

I should like to end on a personal note. My wife and I very much appreciated the warm welcome we received when I first took up my appointment and we have valued highly the friendship and hospitality shown us by the Chairmen and Members throughout the years. This cordial relationship has greatly helped me in my work and I shall always look back on the time I was with you with pleasure.

I am also grateful to the other Chief Officers and their staffs for their friendly co-operation. Finally I wish to thank the staff of the Public Health Department for their loyal and efficient support and to make special mention of the debt I owe to the Chief Public Health Inspectors, first Mr. Wheeler and then Mr. Armstrong, for the help and friendship they have always given me.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. MORWOOD,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	14,847
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid. 1958)	56,660
Number of inhabited houses—end of 1958—according to rate books	18,150
Rateable Value	£1,211,276
Product of a penny rate 1958/1959	£4.850

Extracts from Vital Statistics :—

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births	835	414	421
Legitimate		401	404
Illegitimate		13	17

Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—14.7.

Corrected live birth rate—14.7.

	Total	M.	F.
Still-births	13	7	6
Legitimate		7	5
Illegitimate		—	1

Still-births rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—15.3.

	Total	M.	F.
Total live and still-births	848	421	427
Legitimate		408	409
Illegitimate		13	18

	Total	M.	F.
Infant deaths	12	5	7
Legitimate		5	6
Illegitimate		—	1

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (total deaths) —14.4

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (legitimate deaths) —13.7

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (illegitimate deaths) —33.3

	Total	M.	F.
Neo Natal (first four weeks) mortality	10	3	7
Legitimate		3	6
Illegitimate		—	1

Rate per 1,000 live births—11.7.

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births—3.6

Maternal deaths (including abortion)	—	—
---	---	---

Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-birth	—	—
--	---	---

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	554	239	315

Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimate population—9.8.

Corrected death rate—9.7.

BIRTHS

During the year 835 live births were registered, this being 23 more than last year's total. The rate per 1,000 population was 14·7 compared with the rate of 16·4 for England and Wales. Of the total number, 30 or 3·6% were illegitimate.

DEATHS

During the year 554 deaths were registered. The death rate was 9·7 per 1,000 compared with the rate of 11·7 for England and Wales. The infant mortality rate was 14·4 per 1,000 live births and compares with the rate of 22·5 for England and Wales.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	1	5
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4	9
11. „ „ lung, bronchus	20	5	25
12. „ „ breast	—	11	11
13. „ „ uterus	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	29	31	60
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	4	1	5
16. Diabetes	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	25	58	83
18. Coronary disease, angina	53	32	85
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	13	16
20. Other heart disease	24	67	91
21. Other circulatory disease	11	19	30
22. Influenza	3	1	4
23. Pneumonia	8	15	23
24. Bronchitis	8	5	13
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	5	9
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	4	3	7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	15	33	48
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	—	5
34. All other accidents	8	4	12
35. Suicide	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Total	239	315	554

DEATHS.—AGE GROUPS

	Under										Total
	1	1—4	5—14	15—24	25—34	35—44	45—54	55—64	65—79	80 & over	
MALES ...	5	...	2	...	3	...	5	...	6	...	239
FEMALES	7	...	2	...	—	...	—	...	9	...	315
TOTAL ...	12	...	4	...	3	...	5	...	6	...	554

STATEMENT SHOWING WHERE DEATHS OCCURRED

In District ...	...	...	...	...	...	279
Hospitals outside district ...	...	...	...	...	...	234
Died in other districts ...	...	...	...	...	...	41
TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	554

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Broncho pneumonia: 4 days; 1 day.
 Congenital heart disease: 3 days; 2 months.
 Hydrocephalus: 1 hour.
 Meningitis: 4 days; 2 months.
 Prematurity: 1 hour; 4½ hours; 3 weeks; 2 days; 5 days.

SUMMARY OF BIRTH, INFANT MORTALITY AND DEATH RATES FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS

Year	Births	Infant Mortality	Deaths
1953	13·2	18·2	10·2
1954	...	...	...
1955	13·3	16·2	9·7
1956	13·9	20·7	9·8
1957	13·8	19·0	10·4
1958	14·6	25·9	9·6
1958	14·7	14·4	9·7

MORTUARY

The number of bodies received in the public mortuary was as follows:—
 For post-mortem examination and inquest ... 9
 For post-mortem examination only ... 37
 TOTAL ... 46

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1958

DISEASES	Total	Under		AGE GROUPS							Over 65	
		1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-34	35-44		45-65
Acute poliomyelitis ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia ..	9	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	3
Dysentery ..	20	1	1	2	2	5	1	—	1	1	3	1
Measles ..	106	—	5	9	21	62	2	1	1	1	—	—
Meningococcal infection ..	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid fever ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ..	8	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—respiratory ..	20	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	5	1	8	1
Tuberculosis—other ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping cough ..	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	173	2	6	11	24	78	4	5	9	5	15	5

WARDS

DISEASES	Total	WARDS										West Molesey
		Claygate	Cobham	East Molesey	Esher	Hinchley Wood	Long Ditton	Oxshott	Stoke D'Abernon	Thames Ditton	West Molesey	
Acute poliomyelitis ..	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Acute pneumonia ..	9	1	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	6
Dysentery ..	20	1	—	7	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	—
Measles ..	106	6	13	4	9	2	47	7	4	14	—	—
Meningococcal infection ..	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet fever ..	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	1	—	—
Tuberculosis—respiratory ..	20	4	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	4	—	4
Tuberculosis—other ..	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	173	13	17	17	16	3	54	9	5	24	15	15

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Acute Poliomyelitis.—Two cases of acute poliomyelitis occurred during the year. Both were paralytic. The vaccination campaign against this disease was continued throughout the year.

Tuberculosis.—The death rate from this disease was 0·08 per 1,000 population a higher figure than the average for the past five years, but the notification rate has remained low at 0·35.

B.C.G. vaccination of school children in the 13 year age group was continued by the school health service.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1958

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Other		Respiratory		Other	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	5	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
TOTAL	16	4	—	1	4	1	—	—

Diphtheria.—No cases occurred in the district for the twelfth successive year. Six hundred and forty-eight children were immunised against the disease and 548 were given reinforcing doses.

Dysentery.—There were 20 cases of dysentery of the mild sonne type.

Food poisoning.—No cases occurred during the year.

Measles.—There were 106 cases. Very little can be done to prevent the spread of this disease, but the use of antibiotics has greatly minimised the danger of complications.

Paratyphoid.—One case of paratyphoid B, phage type 1, var. I occurred — a boy aged 5 months. In spite of extensive

investigation the source of infection was not traced. The family came from Malta two months before the onset of the disease.

Whooping cough.—The number of cases notified was 2; the lowest for the past six years. Six hundred and thirty-seven children were immunised against the disease and 142 were given reinforcing doses.

Vaccination.—Details of the number of vaccinations carried out during the year are as follows:—

Number of primary vaccinations	...	...	...	...	...	678
Number of re-vaccinations	...	...	...	...	...	144

National Assistance Act - Section 47.—Action was taken under this Act during the year in the case of an old lady who was physically incapacitated and living alone in insanitary conditions. Although she had objected most strongly to removal to hospital she later informed me with gratitude that she was quite happy there.

NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED YEARLY DURING THE PAST SIX YEARS

				1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Acute encephalitis	...	...	...	3	1	—	1	1	—
Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	6	—	19	9	4	2
Acute pneumonia	...	...	...	31	18	16	14	17	9
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	—	3	5	149	70	20
Erysipelas	...	...	...	7	6	6	4	1	—
Food poisoning	...	...	...	2	1	1	13	8	—
Malaria	...	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	739	213	327	81	801	106
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	3
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	1
Puerperal pyrexia	...	...	...	21	11	7	2	—	1
Scarlet fever	...	...	...	45	36	14	41	13	8
Tuberculosis (all forms)	...	...	...	44	32	31	32	19	21
Typhoid fever	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping cough	...	...	...	69	45	30	32	81	2

NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED MONTHLY DURING 1958

Month			Acute poliomyelitis	Acute pneumonia	Dysentery	Measles	Meningococcal infection	Puerperal pyrexia	Paratyphoid fever	Scarlet fever	Tuberculosis— respiratory	Tuberculosis— other	Whooping cough	Total
January	...	...	—	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	8
February	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3
March	...	...	—	1	5	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16
April	...	...	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
May	...	...	—	—	8	3	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	15
June	...	...	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	3	2	—	—	9
July	...	...	—	—	3	57	1	—	—	2	8	—	—	71
August	...	...	2	—	1	25	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	30
September	...	...	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	6
October	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	4
November	...	...	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
December	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
TOTAL	...	...	2	9	20	106	3	1	1	8	20	1	2	173

SCHOOLS

The number of children attending the County Schools and on the rolls at 31st January, 1958 was :—

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

					No. on Roll
Claygate Junior School	...	...	...	...	221
Claygate Infants	...	...	...	...	148
Cobham St. Andrew's Junior	...	...	...	...	357
Cobham Infants	...	...	...	...	199
Downside St. Matthews	...	...	...	...	55
East Molesey Junior Boys	...	...	...	...	206
East Molesey, Junior Girls	...	...	...	...	208
East Molesey, The Orchard Infants	...	...	...	...	139
Esher C. of E. Junior	...	...	...	...	224
Esher C. of E. Infants	...	...	...	...	126
Hinchley Wood Primary	...	...	...	...	333
Long Ditton, St. Mary's	...	...	...	...	214
Long Ditton Infants	...	...	...	...	163
Oxshott, Royal Kent Primary	...	...	...	...	148
Thames Ditton Junior	...	...	...	...	256
Thames Ditton Infants	...	...	...	...	148
West Molesey, Rivermede Junior	...	...	...	...	441
West Molesey, Sunnymead Infants	...	...	...	...	328

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Cobham, St. Andrew's	...	...	...	...	394
Hinchley Wood	...	...	...	...	1,168
Esher, Waynesflete	...	...	...	...	393
Molesey Boys	...	...	...	...	303
Molesey Girls	...	...	...	...	281
TOTAL				...	<u>6,453</u>

LIST OF SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL CLINICS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ESHER

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND IMMUNISATION

North-Central Division of the County (Divisional Medical Officer, Health Centre, Grange Road, Kingston-on-Thames. Tel.: Kingston 7261)

CLAYGATE : Church Rooms, Church Road (not on telephone).

General Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare	Mondays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	4th Monday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

COBHAM : Between Streets (Tel.: Cobham 3252).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Thursdays, 1.30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 1.30 p.m. (Toddlers)
Immunisation and vaccination ..	4th Thursday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
General Medical	Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m.
Ante-Natal	Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

DOWNSIDE : St. Michael's Chapel (not on telephone).

Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Tuesdays, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
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EAST MOLESEY : The Clinic, St. Mary's Road (Tel.: Molesey 4220).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	1st Wednesday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

EAST MOLESEY : W.V.S. Office, 144-150, Walton Road (Tel. Molesey 6708).

Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
----------------------------------	--

ESHER : King George's Hall, High Street (Tel.: Esher 4092).

General Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	3rd Thursday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Thursdays 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon, 2.15 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

LONG DITTON : Parish Hall, Thorkhill Road (Tel.: Emberbrook 4495).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Tuesdays, 1.30 p.m.
General Medical	Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.
Ante-Natal	Fridays, 10.30 to 12 noon.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	2nd Friday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

OXSHOTT : Women's Institute, Steels Lane (not on telephone).

Health Visitors' weighing and consultation session	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

WEST MOLESEY : Hurst Cottage, Walton Road, (Tel.: Molesey 2478).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Fridays, 1.30 p.m.
General Medical	Monday to Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	1st Friday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Ante-Natal	Mondays, 10.45 a.m. to 12 noon.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays to Fridays 2.15 p.m. to 4.45 p.m.

* District Nurse/Midwife.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities 	48	25	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 	209	154	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	8	10	3	—
TOTAL	265	189	7.	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	6	6	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)					
TOTAL	14	14	—	2	—
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)					
Nil					

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1958

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council of Esher.*

June, 1959.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my second Annual Report on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year 1958.

This report is compiled in accordance with the directions contained in Circular 22/58 from the Ministry of Health.

During the year your Public Health Inspectors have given attention to the many and varied duties which come under the direction of this Department. The Rent Act 1957 was a measure which caused a considerable amount of extra work during the year. When the work of the Department is increased for any reason it necessitates other important work having to receive less attention.

The provisions of The Clean Air Act, 1956, with regard to smoke control areas may have to be considered in the near future. If at any time the "Black Area" is extended and this district is included, the Council will have to seriously consider increasing the staff of the Department, as the present technical officers could not possibly cope with the additional work.

My endeavour has been to keep the essential work of the Department running smoothly.

COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints received at these offices and attended to during the year amounted to 277, as follows:—

Absence of Dustbins	...	...	..	...	...	7
Blocked Drains	...	...	...	...	..	36
Damp Walls, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	55
Defective Roofs, Gutters, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	33
Flooding of Gardens and Ditches	...	...	...	...	...	18
Insects, Flies, Beetles, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	18
Need for Cleansing Rooms etc.	...	...	...	...	...	9
Non-removal of Rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	15
Nuisance from Animals	...	..	...	...	...	4
Offensive Smells	...	...	...	...	...	61
Verminous Conditions	..	...	...	...	...	3

Defective Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective Flooring	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	5
						—
Total						277

In addition, 12 Notices were received from the Metropolitan Water Board, stating that the water supply had been withdrawn from houses for various reasons.

These complaints were investigated with the least possible delay and dealt with as required by circumstances.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

Number of houses inspected and particulars recorded (Rent Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Number of houses and premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	488
Number of houses and premises re-inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,138
Number of miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	391
Number of visits to works in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
Number of visits to factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
Number of visits to factories (routine) (re means of escape in case of fire)	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Number of visits re food inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Number of visits re disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Number of visits re cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	481
Number of visits re disinfestation	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Number of visits re drains tested with smoke or water	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Visits re housing survey	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Visits re Food and Drugs Act, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	264
Visits re Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	154
Visits re Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Visits to Foodshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	585
Visits to Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Visits re Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Visits re Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Visits to Outworkers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Visits re Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits re conveniences on building sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Visits re Certificates of Disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Visits re Clean Air Act, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Visits re Storage of Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
Visits to Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Pet Animals Act, 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Spraying of ponds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

NOTICES SERVED

Informal Notices (written)	142
Informal Notices (verbal)	90
Abatement Notices in respect of nuisances Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936	25
Abatement Notices requiring repair of defective closet, Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936	5
Formal Notices to drain buildings, Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936	16
Abatement Notice to provide a dustbin, Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936	1
Notices before Entry, Housing Act, 1936, Section 159	8

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT:—

HOUSE REPAIRS

Ceilings renewed or repaired	37
Chimney stacks repaired or renewed	29
Damp proof course inserted or repaired	3
Doors and frames renewed or repaired	47
Eavesgutters and rainwater pipes renewed or repaired	88
Fireplaces and ranges provided or repaired	6
Floors and skirtings renewed or repaired	61
Painting - external	15
Roofs - stripped and re-roofed or repaired	40
Rooms cleansed or redecorated	84
Sinks - new provided and fixed	28
Staircases - risers and treads repaired	9
Ventilation provided or improved	5
Walls, external - repaired or reconstructed	78
Walls, internal - repaired	139
Windows - frames and sills renewed or repaired	138
Windows and doors - reveals repointed	59
Windows - sash cords or glazing putty renewed	127
Yards and passages repaired or resurfaced	2

WATER SUPPLY

Supply reinstated	12
Supply pipes and taps renewed or repaired	7
Tanks and covers renewed	3

WATER CLOSETS

Rebuilt or repaired	85
Lighting or ventilation provided	2
Flushing cistern renewed or repaired	15
Pans renewed	6
Pans - seats renewed or repaired or pans cleansed	18

DRAINAGE

Drains cleared	34
Drains relaid or repaired	14
Gully kerbing repaired	16
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	7
Inspection chambers – covers and frames renewed or repaired	11
Cesspool repaired or provided	1
Septic tanks repaired or provided	3
Surface water drains provided or repaired	2
Soil and vent pipes renewed or repaired	10
Waste pipes renewed or repaired	21

GENERAL NUISANCES

Accumulations removed	3
Dustbins provided	8
Miscellaneous	28

HOUSING

Number of houses built by the Council during 1958	31
Number in course of construction at the end of the year	74
Number of houses built by Private Enterprise during 1958	266
Number in course of construction at the end of the year	301
Number of dwellings provided by conversions during 1958	6

FOOD

The following is a list of diseased or otherwise unsound meat and other foods which was surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption :—

	lbs.		lbs.
Bacon	29	Kidneys	43
Beef	487	Livers	40
Biscuits	5	Melts (Pigs)	28
Confectionery (Sugar)	37	Pork (Legs)	205
Egg albumen	28	Potatoes	4 barrels

Total : 8 cwts. 6 lbs. and 4 barrels.

TINNED, BOTTLED AND OTHER FOOD :—

Conserve	31 lbs.	Meat	25 tins
Fish	28 tins	Pickles	14 jars
Fruit	201 tins	Peas	15 tins
Fruit Juice	26 tins	Soup	23 tins
Ham (Cooked) 246 lbs.	22 tins	Tongues	5 tins
Luncheon Meat	107 tins	Vegetables	25 tins
Milk	25 tins	Walnuts (Shelled) ..	48 pkts.

There were 4 licensed slaughtermen on the Register at the end of the year.

There are no slaughterhouses in this urban district.

FOOD TRADE PREMISES

The number of food premises in the Urban District classified under wards is as follows :—

	Claygate	Cobham	Long Ditton	West Molesey	Esher	Hinchley Wood	Oxshott	East Molesey	Thames Ditton	Total
Bakers	2	5	—	1	2	2	—	5	6	23
Butchers	2	4	1	2	3	2	1	9	6	30
Confectioners	6	12	3	3	8	3	—	16	7	58
Fishmongers	1	7	1	2	2	—	1	7	3	24
Greengrocers	5	6	2	3	4	2	1	13	8	44
Grocers	11	21	7	11	15	4	3	21	16	109
Hotels and Public Houses	5	13	6	4	10	1	2	7	11	59
Restaurants, Cafes etc.	2	7	2	5	12	1	3	13	3	48
Schools	7	9	2	1	6	1	4	8	2	40
Works Canteens	2	3	1	13	4	2	—	1	6	32
Totals	43	87	25	45	66	18	15	100	68	467

During the year 585 visits were made to the above food premises.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955

Visits continue to be made to food premises in the urban district. It is true to say that there is an overall improvement in the hygienic condition of premises, but there are certain traders who form a hard core, and who are reluctant to take any steps, unless forced, to improve their premises or methods.

It is a regrettable fact that anyone may open a food business, without even the most elementary ideas of cleanliness. Once established, very few would appear to take the trouble to learn or to improve their knowledge of hygiene and some resent having matters explained to them.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

During the year 165 samples of food and drugs were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst. This number of samples is an average of 2.91 samples per 1,000 of the estimated population. Of the samples submitted 3 were reported upon adversely and this represents 1.8 per cent of the total number.

	Formal	Informal
Almond flavouring	—	1
Almonds - ground	1	1
Antacid tablets	—	2
Asparagus Tips	—	1
Beef Steak with vegetables	—	1
Beer	3	—
Biscuits	—	1
Biscuits - chocolate	—	2
Brandy	2	—
Butter	18	—
Cheese	—	1
Cheese Spread	—	2
Chicklettes	1	—
Chicken - chopped	—	1
Chocolate Drink	—	1
Chocolate Spread	—	1
Cider	1	—
Cochineal	—	1
Coffee	—	2
Coffee - Instant	—	1
Coffee and Chicory Essence	—	1
Confectionery - flour	—	3
Confectionery - sugar	—	9
Cordial	—	2
Cornflour	—	1
Cough Lozenges	—	1
Curried Beans with Sultanias	—	1
Curry Powder	—	2
Dates	—	1
Diabetic Sweets	—	1
Frankfurter Sausages	—	1
Fruit for Cakes	—	1
Fruit Salt	—	1
Garlic Salt	—	1
Gin	4	—
Golden Syrup	—	1
Horseradish Sauce	—	1
Ice Lolly	—	1
Indigestion Mix	—	1
Jam	—	1

						Formal	Informal
Lard	...	..	..	...	...	2	—
Lentils	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Liquid Paraffin	...	..	...	...	...	—	1
Liver Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	29	1
Milk – Channel Island	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Mince meat	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Mineral Water	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Mint – dried	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Molasses	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Onions	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Orange Drink	...	...	..	...	...	—	1
Peas – Garden	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Peas – tinned	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Pepper – white	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Pork Pie	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Rice Pudding	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Rum	...	...	...	..	...	2	—
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sausages – Luncheon	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sausages – Beef (preserved)	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sausages – Pork	...	...	...	...	...	9	—
Sauce	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sherry	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Suet	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Tablets to discourage smoking	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Throat Lozenges	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Whisky	...	...	..	...	...	3	—
						—	—
					Totals	87	78
						—	—

Genuine ... 162 Not Genuine ... 3 Total ... 165

The following statement gives details of the samples reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst :—

<i>Sample No. (F, formal. I, informal)</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Irregularity</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
59.	F. Milk.	This sample was 16% deficient in milk-fat.	A warning letter was sent.
79.	F. Beef sausage (preserved).	This sample contained an excess of sulphur dioxide, namely 570 parts per million instead of a maximum of 450 parts.	The matter was taken up with the manufacturers and a warning letter sent.
153.	F. Pork sausage.	This consisted of a sample of preserved pork sausages containing sulphur dioxide 160 parts per million.	A warning letter was sent to the vendor.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 — Sections 16 and 18

There are 183 premises registered under the above Sections for the sale of ice-cream, preserved meats etc.

ICE CREAM

During the year 51 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination (Methylene Blue Test). The results being as follows:—

Provisional grade	No. of samples	Rate % of the total number of samples taken.
1	46	90.20
2	3	5.88
3	2	3.92
4	—	0.00

For comparison the years 1956 and 1957 are given below :—

1956			1957		
Provisional grade	No. of samples	Rate %	Provisional grade	No. of samples	Rate %
1	31	68.88	1	38	74.50
2	7	15.56	2	11	21.58
3	2	15.56	3	2	03.92
4	—	00.00	4	—	00.00

Grade 1 and 2 samples can be considered satisfactory.

MILK

Milk, a particularly valuable food for the very young, the elderly and the invalid, has received a great deal of attention from the public health point of view for many years.

There are two main conditions in regard to milk dealt with by the department, one in regard to purity and the other to quality.

Because dairy herds were infected with bovine tuberculosis it was necessary to kill the bacteria by heat treating the milk. This became known as pasteurisation and was a very great factor in minimising the bovine tuberculosis type of infection in children.

Heat treatment apparatus was crude at first and milk sometimes failed to receive sufficient treatment. A test known as the phosphatase test was devised to check this milk to discover whether the process had been carried out correctly.

The phosphatase test is still in regular use but with modern equipment it is most unusual for a sample to fail the test and I am happy to record that in 1958 all the milk samples, 114 in number, were satisfactory.

For some years now, parts of the country have been declared free from cattle infected with tuberculosis, these places are known as specified areas, and this district is situated within one such area. All cattle within the area should be free from this disease, tests are carried out and no animals found to be infected are allowed into the area from a non-specified area. Progressively, it is hoped cattle in the whole of the country will be cleared of the disease.

This may not, however, mean the end of heat treatment in relation to milk as there are other known harmful organisms which are rendered innocuous by heat treatment. I am sure other diseases in cows causing bacterial contamination of milk will receive more attention when tuberculosis has been stamped out.

Milk containers often receive publicity because glass splinters from bottles are found in the milk. During the year the Council was successful in a prosecution brought against a wholesaler. The case concerned a glass fragment found in a bottle of cream by a resident of this district. The piece of glass actually entered the person's mouth. A fine of £20. 0s. 0d. was imposed. Accidents such as this are unfortunately not infrequent in this country.

For some years now it has been an offence to leave full bottles of milk on the verges of the highway but the same provisions do not apply to empty bottles. This I deplore as contamination often takes place, which is undesirable even though the bottles receive thorough cleansing and sterilisation at the dairy.

Milk and cream containers of a different composition from glass and of a non-returnable nature may be the answer, and I hope this will be brought into general use in the future.

This Department plays its part in helping to procure a clean milk supply. Efforts will not be relaxed in the future to ensure that purity is maintained, and improvements made where modern knowledge and techniques can be applied.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949—1954

Number of Milk Distributors registered in the area ...	9
Number of premises registered as Dairies (not being Dairy Farms)	5

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949—1954, have been issued as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell "Sterilised" Milk	15
Dealers' Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk	18
Supplementary Licences to sell "Sterilised" Milk	7
Supplementary Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk . .	9

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, have been issued as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ...	17
Supplementary Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	9

SLUM CLEARANCE

Housing Acts, 1936, 1949 and 1957

During the year Brewery Cottage, Portsmouth Road, Cobham, and Rose Cottage, Tartar Hill, Cobham were demolished.

RENT ACT, 1957

We may now look back on 1957 and 1958 as the years during which the Department received the highest number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

As was pointed out in my last Annual Report more applications would have been received if the Act had been a less complex piece of legislation and more easily understood.

There is no doubt, however, that the Act has had a beneficial effect on the maintenance of some rented houses. It is pleasing to see a number of houses which have had a protective coating of paint on external woodwork and gutters: premises which previously had been neglected in this respect since before the war.

Other structural and lesser repair items have been carried out at a good number of premises: either directly as a consequence of a tenant serving a notice on the owner of the house, or after application had been made to the Council for a Certificate of Disrepair.

It is to be hoped that work done to premises in this way will ease the situation in regard to houses requiring notices to remedy defects under the Housing or Public Health Acts.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Part 1.—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

(1)	Number of applications for certificates	35
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	nil
(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	35
	(a) in respect of some but not all defects	22
	(b) in respect of all defects	13

(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	16
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	1
(6)	Number of Certificates issued	20

Part 2.—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates.

(7)	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	17
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates ...	2
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants objection	nil
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	15

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928

There was an increase in the amount of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures stored under licence in the district the amounts being as follows :—

Petroleum spirit	153,116 gallons
Petroleum mixtures	4,725 gallons

The total of Calcium Carbide was 22 cwt.

During the year the attention of occupiers of farms in the district was drawn to the danger involved in connection with the storage of Calcium Carbide (used on some farms in bird scaring apparatus) and they were notified that a licence for storage was necessary when more than 28 lbs. was kept on the premises.

As a result one farm was licenced during the year.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

It is many years since this country was rid of open sewers in the streets, but there is still an astonishing tolerance of polluted air. Medical science tells us that polluted air can cause disease and worsen respiratory conditions; it is understandable therefore why the Government is placing emphasis on cleaner air and it is pleasing to see the gradual awakening of the public to this important subject.

With the price of solid fuel, and indeed any other type of fuel, being what it is today, it is unlikely that any enlightened engineer employed at a factory will knowingly allow dark smoke to be emitted because smoke means waste. Smoke contains particles and gases which should have been burnt and should have given up their

heat to some useful process. When combustion is not complete, fuel, heat, manpower and money are wasted, efficiency of plant may be impaired and in addition smoke is given off into the air.

I have no doubt that owners of industrial premises in this district do all they can to keep the air clean for the reasons which have been stated.

It is noticeable that modern factories like those in West Molesey are turning to oil firing and in this way, provided good practice is adhered to and regular maintenance carried out, the smoke problem does not arise.

The open hearth, burning bituminous coal in the ordinary dwelling house is I believe, in the main responsible in this area for causing smoke and polluting the atmosphere. I commend the byelaw which this Council has adopted in connection with new premises which allows only for the installation of fires capable of burning smokeless fuels.

It does not follow, however, that householders will automatically burn smokeless fuels in these modern appliances and I feel that everyone in the Urban District of Esher should be encouraged in every way possible to do so, or to adopt some other smokeless way of heating their houses.

In many of the "black" areas of the country smoke control areas have been made and many others are in the process of being declared. This is encouraging, and when there is greater production of smokeless fuels and they become readily available everywhere, I feel the time will then have come for all areas to play their part in contributing to the national effort towards cleaner air.

FACTORIES

The number of visits made under the Factories Acts 1937 and 1948, was 179 as follows :—

105 to factories with mechanical power.

25 to factories without mechanical power.

49 with regard to Certificates for Means of Escape in case of
of fire.

There are 257 factories in the district of which 209 have mechanical power and 48 are without mechanical power.

The number of premises in the district such as boot and shoe repairers and watchmakers, etc., where there are no employees,

and therefore are not classified as factories, is 43. These have been kept under observation during the year and found to be satisfactory.

The number of outworkers in the district is 9. Their premises have been visited during the year and found to be satisfactory.

The number of Certificates issued for means of escape in case of fire, as provided by Section 34 of the Factories Act 1937 was 13.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no premises in this urban district where flock is manufactured. There are only three premises where rag flock or other filling materials are stored for use in connection with the business of upholstery, and these premises are registered.

No samples were taken during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Under this Act no person may now keep a pet shop unless he is licenced by the Local Authority and no animal can be sold on a street or public place except in a market at a barrow or stall. Pets must not be sold to children under 12 years of age. Owners of pet shops must provide the animals with suitable accommodation, lighting and ventilation. They must be kept at the correct temperature with adequate supplies of food and drinking water.

Animals are defined under the Act as any description of vertebrate and this includes goldfish and caged birds.

The prescribed fee for a licence to keep a pet shop is 10/-. Three applications were received and licences granted.

DISINFECTION

Disinfection after certain cases of infectious disease was carried out as necessary, or where a request for this to be done was made by the occupier.

DISINFESTATION

A few complaints were received during the year regarding insect pests in dwelling houses. These were investigated and where necessary treatment was carried out by the Department or advice given.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

During the year it was necessary to make visits to give warning to a number of traders in connection with Sunday trading and other irregularities.

Ten complaints were received as to contravention of the Act as follows :—

Selling goods on a Sunday	...	...	...	...	8
Other irregularities	...	...	...	...	2

Each complaint was investigated and the matter rectified.

REVIEW OF PEST DESTRUCTION DURING THE YEAR

During the year the work of pest destruction has continued on the lines of previous years.

The population of rats and mice has tended to be higher this year than usual, probably because of an abundance of natural food, especially acorns and a good deal of corn left in the fields unharvested. This undoubtedly leads to a higher survival rate amongst the new generations because there is less need to forage for food.

Fewer foxes were killed on the Commons this year, mainly because several litters of cubs were gassed last springtime.

Rabbits are again appearing in certain areas but only in very small numbers and it is hoped that this state of infestation will not increase.

The school canteens were again successfully treated with D.D.T. against fly infestation, and the number of contracts with business premises remains about the same.

About a hundred wasps nests were destroyed this year and the Pests Officer's help has often been sought with a variety of other pests.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949. Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1959.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) Agricultural
	Non-Agricultural			(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises)		
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	71	18,090	2,092	20,253	32
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of (a) notification, (b) survey under the Act, (c) otherwise, e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose	(a) — (b) 30 (c) —	677 217 —	44 — 30	721 277 —	— 32 —
III. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections (to be completed only if figures are readily available)	—	1,656	723	2,379	—
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by : (a) Rats, (b) Mice	Rats — Major 6 Minor Mice — Major — Minor	— 548 50	— 120 27	— 674 77	— — —
V. Number of infested properties (in Section IV) treated by the Local Authority	6	598	147	751	—
VI. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatment (to be completed only if figures are readily available)	—	1,656	723	2,379	—
VII. Number of notices served under Section IV :— (a) Treatment (b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of a notice under Section IV of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	19	—	19	—

RAINFALL

Table showing rainfall in the district during 1958, taken at the Sewage Purification Works, Esher.

January	...	...	2.00 ins.	August	...	...	3.78 ins.
February	...	...	1.94 „	September	...	...	4.23 „
March	...	...	1.11 „	October	...	...	2.10 „
April	...	...	1.00 „	November	...	...	1.71 „
May	...	...	2.46 „	December	...	...	2.49 „
June	...	...	3.62 „				—
July	...	...	2.05 „				Total 28.49 ins.

Compared with the figures for the previous year this is an increase of 6.33 inches.

Average yearly rainfall for the past five years: 23.8 inches.

At the close of the year the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. J. B. Morwood) was appointed as County Divisional Medical Officer, South Eastern Division and Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Coulsdon & Purley and Caterham & Warlingham. The Staff of the Esher Public Health Department wish him every success in his new appointments and they extend a very warm welcome to Dr. P. Westcombe his successor.

In conclusion I wish to express my appreciation of the support given to me by everyone in the Department, and to extend my sincere thanks to the Officers and Staff of other Departments for their ready help and co-operation at all times.

I am Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. C. ARMSTRONG,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

